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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6652

BILL NUMBER: HB 1588

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 15, 2006

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Salamonie River Corridor Commission.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Espich

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill establishes the Salamonie River Corridor Commission to promote the natural, cultural, and recreational resources in the Salamonie River corridor. It specifies that the commission has no power concerning land use controls or the Salamonie River.

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill establishes the Salamonie River Corridor Commission. There is no appropriation in the bill.

Commission Members and Staff: Members of the commission are the following:

- (1) The director of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) or designee.
- (2) One individual appointed by the county executive of each county that
 - (A) contains a part of the corridor; and
 - (B) chooses to support the activities of the commission.
- (3) The director of the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), or designee.
- (4) The director of the DNR Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology or designee.
- (5) The director of the Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), or designee.
- (6) The director of the Office of Tourism Development, or designee.
- (7) The president of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, or designee.

The commission must meet as the commission determines or upon the call of the president or director. The commission may adopt bylaws. Members of the commission are entitled to reimbursement for travel expenses and other reasonable expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties. Upon

request from the commission, the DNR director must provide the commission with administrative support. The DNR must provide accounting services pertaining to the funds. The commission may appoint an individual to act as treasurer of the commission for purposes of the handling and disbursement of the funds. State agencies involved should be able to participate in commission meetings given their existing resources and budgets.

Commission Fund: The bill establishes the Salamonie River Corridor Commission Fund for the purpose of paying reimbursement of the expenses of members; other administrative costs, including expenses for publications and postage; and costs incurred in fulfilling the directives of the commission master plan, including multicounty projects and marketing and educational tools such as videotape productions, signs, and promotional literature. The fund is administered by the director under the direction of the commission. Expenses of administering the fund must be paid from money in the fund.

The commission is authorized to enter into contracts, within the limit of available funds, with individuals, organizations, and institutions; with local and regional nonprofit corporations and associations; and with governmental and private entities.

Explanation of State Revenues: The Salamonie River Corridor Commission Fund is established. The sources of money for the fund are appropriations made to the fund and any other funds obtained by the commission. The commission may receive appropriations of federal funds; accept gifts, contributions, and bequests; and receive and disburse funds available from the state or federal government.

The Treasurer of State must invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds may be invested. Interest that accrues from these investments must be deposited in the fund. Money in the fund at the end of a fiscal year does not revert to the state General Fund.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: The bill affects Blackford, Huntington, Jay, and Wells Counties. Counties may support the commission by adopting a resolution and appointing an individual to the commission. Each county that appoints a member to the commission must send a copy of the resolution to the DNR director and inform the director of the name of the county's appointee when the appointment is made. These provisions will increase administrative costs for the counties involved. However, the counties should be able to cover any additional costs given their existing level of resources and budgets.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Treasurer of State; DNR; INDOT; IDEM; Office of Tourism Development; Indiana Economic Development Corporation.

Local Agencies Affected: Blackford, Huntington, Jay, and Wells Counties.

Information Sources:

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